

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1537

To direct the Secretary of Defense to conduct studies regarding alternative models for acquisition and funding of technologies supporting network-centric operations.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 2009

Mr. SESTAK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to conduct studies regarding alternative models for acquisition and funding of technologies supporting network-centric operations.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. STUDIES TO ANALYZE ALTERNATIVE MODELS**
4 **FOR ACQUISITION AND FUNDING OF TECH-**
5 **NOLOGIES SUPPORTING NETWORK-CENTRIC**
6 **OPERATIONS.**

7 (a) STUDIES REQUIRED.—

8 (1) INDEPENDENT STUDY.—Not later than 90
9 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the

1 Secretary of Defense shall enter into a contract with
2 an independent federally funded research and devel-
3 opment center to carry out a comprehensive study of
4 policies, procedures, organization, and regulatory
5 constraints affecting the acquisition of technologies
6 supporting network-centric operations. The contract
7 shall be funded from amounts appropriated pursuant
8 to an authorization of appropriations in this Act or
9 otherwise made available for fiscal year 2010 for op-
10 eration and maintenance for Defense-wide activities.

11 (2) JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF STUDY.—The
12 Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall carry out
13 a comprehensive study of the same subjects covered
14 by paragraph (1). The study shall be independent of
15 the study required by paragraph (1) and shall be
16 carried out in conjunction with the military depart-
17 ments and in coordination with the Secretary of De-
18 fense.

19 (b) MATTERS TO BE ADDRESSED.—Each study re-
20 quired by subsection (a) shall address the following mat-
21 ters:

22 (1) Development of a system for understanding
23 the various foundational components that contribute
24 to network-centric operations, such as data trans-

1 port, processing, storage, data collection, and dis-
2 semination of information.

3 (2) Determining how acquisition and funding
4 programs that are in place as of the date of the en-
5 actment of this Act relate to the system developed
6 under paragraph (1).

7 (3) Development of acquisition and funding
8 models using the system developed under paragraph
9 (1), including—

10 (A) a model under which a joint entity
11 independent of any military department (such
12 as the Joint Staff) is established with responsi-
13 bility and control of all funding for the acquisi-
14 tion of technologies for network-centric oper-
15 ations, and with authority to oversee the incor-
16 poration of such technologies into the acquisi-
17 tion programs of the military departments;

18 (B) a model under which an executive
19 agent is established to manage and oversee the
20 acquisition of technologies for network-centric
21 operations, but would not have exclusive control
22 of the funding for such programs;

23 (C) a model under which the acquisition
24 and funding programs that are in place as of

1 the date of the enactment of this Act are main-
2 tained; and

3 (D) any other model that the entity car-
4 rying out the study considers relevant.

5 (4) An analysis of each of the models developed
6 under paragraph (3) with respect to potential bene-
7 fits in—

8 (A) collecting, processing, and dissemi-
9 nating information;

10 (B) network commonality;

11 (C) common communications;

12 (D) interoperability;

13 (E) mission impact and success; and

14 (F) cost-effectiveness.

15 (5) An evaluation of each of the models devel-
16 oped under paragraph (3) with respect to feasibility,
17 including identification of legal, policy, or regulatory
18 barriers that may impede the implementation of
19 such model.

20 (c) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than September
21 30, 2010, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the
22 congressional defense committees a report on the results
23 of the studies required by subsection (a). The report shall
24 include the findings and recommendations of the studies

1 and any observations and comments that the Secretary
2 considers appropriate.

3 (d) NETWORK-CENTRIC OPERATIONS DEFINED.—In
4 this section, the term “network-centric operations” refers
5 to the ability to exploit all human and technical elements
6 of the Joint Force and mission partners through the full
7 integration of collected information, awareness, knowl-
8 edge, experience, and decisionmaking, enabled by secure
9 access and distribution, all to achieve agility and effective-
10 ness in a dispersed, decentralized, dynamic, or uncertain
11 operational environment.

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